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|--|---------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| APPLICATION NO.  | FILING DATE   | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
| 10/565,740   | 01/23/2006    | Heiko Neumetzler     | 02316.2289USWO      | 6226             |
| 23552  | 7590          | 04/04/2008           | EXAMINER            |                  |
| MERCHANT & GOULD PC<br>P.O. BOX 2903<br>MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402-0903 |               |                      | VU, HIEN D          |                  |
| ART UNIT   | PAPER NUMBER  |                      |                     |                  |
|  | 2833          |                      |                     |                  |
| MAIL DATE  | DELIVERY MODE |                      |                     |                  |
| 04/04/2008   | PAPER         |                      |                     |                  |

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

|                              |                                      |  |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Office Action Summary</b> | <b>Application No.</b><br>10/565,740 | <b>Applicant(s)</b><br>NEUMETZLER, HEIKO |
|                              | <b>Examiner</b><br>Hien D. Vu        | <b>Art Unit</b><br>2833                  |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If no period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED. (35 U.S.C. § 133).

Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 January 2008.

2a) This action is FINAL.      2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 11/10/08

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application

6) Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**DETAILED ACTION**

1. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the feature the longitudinal axes of the insulation-displacement terminal contacts lie parallel to the surface of the printed circuit board when the conductor connection module is in the installed state on the printed circuit board in claims 1 and 11 must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

2. Claims 1-20 are objected to because in claims 1 and 11, the feature "the longitudinal axes of the insulation-displacement terminal contacts lie parallel to the surface or major surfaces of the printed circuit board when the conductor connection module is in the installed state on the printed circuit board" is unclear since such feature is not clearly shown in the drawings and the structure of the longitudinal axes of the insulation-displacement terminal contacts was not clearly defined in the claims 1 and 11. Because the claims recited that the first contact area is in form of an insulation displacement terminal contact, it appears that the longitudinal axes of the insulation-displacement terminal contacts does not lie parallel to the surface or major surfaces of the printed circuit board (see Fig. 4).

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-3, 7-11 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Squitieri (4591225) in view of DE (9400303).

Insofar as the claims can be understood, Squitieri, Figs.1-6 shows a conductor connection module 20 for printed circuit boards comprising:

a plurality of contact elements 60, and an integral housing 40 in which the contact elements are arranged, the housing extending from a first end to a second end, the contact elements having a first contact area 64 arranged at the first end of the housing, and the contact elements having a second contact area 70 which is in the form

of a contact pin arranged at the second end of the housing, wherein longitudinal axes of the first contacts lie parallel to the surface of the printed circuit board when the conductor connection module is in the installed state on the printed circuit board 76. To form the first contact area to be in the form of an insulation-displacement terminal contact would have been obvious to one with skill in the art since such change is old and well known in the art to obtain the predictable results such as for receiving the wires. For example, DE, Figs. 6-11 show a first contact area with a slot 21 of contact element 8 being in the form of an insulation-displacement terminal.

As to claim 2, Squitieri shows the contact pins are arranged at right angles to the insulation-displacement terminal contacts.

As to claims 3 and 7, Squitieri shows the housing is an integral plastic housing.

As to claims 8-10, Squitieri shows the housing has a stop surface 84 in order to support the housing on an end surface 80 of the printed circuit board.

As to claims 11 and 16, the claims have substantially similar features as claims 1-3 and 7-10; therefore they are rejected under the similar rationale.

5. Claims 4-6,12-15 and 17-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Squitieri (4591225) in view of DE (9400303) as applied to claims 1-3 above, and further in view of Smalley, Jr. et al (6050845) and Sommer et al (6095854).

As to claims 4,6,12, Squitieri in view of DE (303) does not show the housing having fixing pins which are arranged parallel to contact pins. Smalley, Jr., Figs. 1-3 show a housing 12 having fixing pins 26 which are arranged parallel to contact pins 44. It would have been obvious to one with skill in the art to modify the connector of

Squitieri by forming the housing with fixing pins which are arranged parallel to the contact pins, as taught by Smalley, in order to provide proper connection for the connector on the board.

As to claims 5, 13, the claim features have been discussed above.

As to claims 14, 17 and 19, Squitieri shows the housing includes latching tabs 94,96 on opposite faces of the housing, but Squitieri in view of DE (303) does not show a front panel having an opening, an end of the housing including the insulation-displacement terminals positioned in the opening, the latching tabs latching the housing to the front panel. Sommer, Figs. 9-12 show a front panel 14 having an opening 12, an end of the housing including the insulation-displacement terminals positioned in the opening, latching tabs 22 latching the housing to the front panel. It would have been obvious to one with skill in the art to modify the connector of Squitieri by providing a front panel having an opening, an end of the housing including the insulation-displacement terminals positioned in the opening, the latching tabs latching the housing to the front panel, as taught by Sommer, in order to mount the connector to a panel.

As to claims 15, 18 and 20, the claim features have been discussed above.

6. Applicant's arguments with respect to claim 1-20 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

In response to the remarks on page 8, the amendment shows the longitudinal axes of the insulation-displacement terminal contacts in Fig. 2 is still unclear and the objections have been discussed above.

7. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Hien D. Vu at telephone number 571-272-2016.

/Hien D. Vu/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2833

|   |                                |  |
|---|--------------------------------|--|
| <b>Application Number</b><br> | <b>Application/Control No.</b> | <b>Applicant(s)/Patent under Reexamination</b> |
|   | 10/565,740                     | NEUMETZLER, HEIKO                              |
|   | <b>Examiner</b>                | <b>Art Unit</b>                                |
|   | Hien D. Vu                     | 2833   |